Carousel

This strategy may be used before, during, or after reading and is completed with cooperative groups. The groups generate ideas or information as they move through a series of categories related to a topic of study. This strategy helps learners identify what they already know about a topic.

1. Choose your topic and then identify categories or sub-topics about which

students could generate ideas or information. Label large sheets of chart paper

with the categories or subtopics and post them around the room so that groups can

move from station to station.

2. Divide students into cooperative groups. The number of groups should equal the

number of categories or sub-topics. Assign each group a different color marker to

use on the chart paper; this will allow you to acknowledge group contributions.

3. Explain that groups will move in a clockwise (or counter clockwise) rotation

to each station. At each station, group members will list their ideas/opinions/

prior knowledge about each category or sub-topic. They must add ideas only after

they have read the suggestions that have already been listed by other groups (no

repeats).

4. Inform the groups of the amount of time they will have at each station. Begin

the process, calling time at the identified intervals.

5. Use/review the ideas/information that was generated from the carousel

brainstorming activity.